

POST PROJECT REPORT

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2020

West Valley City, Utah



West Valley City
West Valley City Communications Department, Neighborhood Services Office 3600 S Constitution Boulevard, Suite 230 | West Valley City, Utah 84119 neighborhoods@wvc-ut.gov

www.wvc-ut.gov/nno



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Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33

"National Night Out is a key component in helping to maintain and build strong neighborhoods in West Valley City that would not be possible without the dedication and energy of the many wonderful neighborhood leaders who organized the forty plus neighborhood block parties annually."

Wayne Pyle,City Manager





Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33







National Night Out 2020 Post-Project Report Form

After NNO 2020, <u>all coordinators</u> should complete and return this form with other post-project materials to: NATW, 308 E. Lancaster Ave., #115, P.O. Box 303, Wynnewood, PA 19096

CONTACT: Craig D. Thomas	POPULATION: 135,000	
AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: West Valley City, UT		
Exact "Title" of your NNO Area: West Valley City, UT		
STREET ADDRESS: 3600 South Constitution Boulevard		
CITY: West Valley City STATE: UT ZIP: 84119	DAY PHONE: (801)-509-1950	
E-MAIL ADDRESS: Craig. Thomas@wvc-ut.gov	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
1. Please rate National Night Out 2020 in your community in the follow. MEDIA COVERAGE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTICIPATION IMPROVING POLICE/COMMUNITY RELATIONS HEIGHTENING AWARENESS BOOSTING NEIGHBORHOOD SPIRIT ENLISTING NEW VOLUNTEERS WEATHER CONDITIONS Excellen Excellen Excellen Excellen Excellen Excellen	t Good Fair Poor	
2. Is your area entered to compete for post-project awards?	√ Yes □ No	
	Category 2 (select only one)	
3. How many people attended your NNO this year?		
4. How is participation trending in your NNO area? Increasing	Stays about the same	
5. Do you feel your area will participate in National Night Out 2021?	✓Yes □ No	
6. Have you enclosed photos, news clips, proclamations, etc.?	✓Yes □ No	
7. Have you enclosed a video with this report?	✓Yes □ No	
8. Did you purchase NNO 2020 Promotional Products this year?	✓ Yes □ No	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	please explain on other side)	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	please explain on other side)	
9. Have you enclosed information on your plans for PROJECT 365?	√ Yes □ No	
10. IMPORTANT! On another sheet, please list your overall impressions, comments, observations and suggestions regarding NNO 2020 How does NNO benefit your area's crime, drug and violence prevention programs? Your comments will be helpful in our evaluation and future planning. *******		
NOTE: This Report Form and other post-NNO materials should be returned later than October 29, 2020. Use this Form as a cover page if you are sending a package, please send to our street address above overload binders. Thank you.	u are submitting a full report. (If you	





West Valley City is excited to share our story about participation in the 37th annual National Night Out. Our events and program looked very different in 2020 due to restrictions. Residents of the City are proud of this tradition and the power of the National Night Out program to help build unity within neighborhoods and to strengthen relationships with City officials, staff and police. This report will demonstrate our efforts to connect with community while also responding to limitations surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Our residents continued to show deep interest in National Night Out, but were sadly limited in their ability to host the usual events. There is little time to rest, as we pause to reflect on 2020, West Valley City residents and staff are eagerly talking about and looking forward to reviving events in 2021 if possible.







Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33





Coordinator Summary

2020 was an extremely difficult year for West Valley City and our residents. Like all communities around the county COVID-19 was extremely impactful.

Plans were made early in the year in hopes that the pandemic would be better under control by August. When the trends were not positive we responded and made plans for October. Following local and state guidelines a plan was created based on the color phase system the state put in place.

Multiple ZOOM meetings were held during the year with the neighborhood groups to keep them up to date with the City's National Night Out plans in hopes that they would be able to have events. Trending in September and October became too prohibitive for our groups to safely hold events this year. In 2019 we had 56 neighborhood events, this year we had 4. This was a hard decision for our neighborhood organizers as the public is yearning for in-person connections, but there were few options given circumstances.

Early in the year we were able to work with our sponsors and secured commitments from each of them to participate again this year if circumstances allowed. Sadly, we were not able to hold events and the sponsors were all understanding and are eager for a possible return in 2021.

Our block party assistance program was subsequently also restructured to address the possible events neighborhoods would be able to host. No food products were offered, but supplies such as sidewalk chalk, crayons and paper products were offered.

With difficulty holding neighborhood events, a shift was made to focus on drive-thru style safety and wellness fairs that also included free flu shot clinics at each event.

While 2020 was a huge disappointment, smart choices were made and plans are optimistically underway for a huge 2021 return.

BLOCK PARTIES	DATES	ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN
Neighborhood Block Parties	Saturday, September 26 Tuesday, October 6 (new official day) Friday, October 16	NO EVENTS	NO EVENTS that encourage in-person gathering points. NO FOOD. Possible Alternatives: - Parades - Chalk Art Festival - Drive Thru Party - Drive In Movie - Concert in the Park - Porch Decorating Contest - Scavenger Hunt Party - Gift Bag Deliveries - Letter Writing Campaign - Neighborhood Yard Art - Holiday Decorating Contest	Block Party Requirements (subject to change): - No Events Over 500 People - Sign in Table with a Map (document who is in attendance) - Hand Wash / Sanitation Stations - Regular Sterilization of High Touch Point Surfaces - Food lines for food to be served to attendees - No buffet lines - Controlled entrance and exit points - Assistance Program (limited supplies): Water, Paper Products, Hand Soap, Signs - Signage for Guidelines





	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Estimated Attendance	9,000	10,000	11,000	12,000	605
NNO Block Parties	19 💆	24	26	22	43
Additional August Block Parties	20	16	31 /2-1/2	26	
Additional September Block Parties	na	na 💝	na	3.8	
Block Parties Canceled	0	1			
August Safety Fairs	4	3	3	737 TOM	3.62
Neighborhood Watch Meetings	3	2 0	4	4	
Other Events (business, church, school, etc)	2	3 0	12 °	6	2

Organizational Structure & Planning

West Valley City, like many other communities participating in National Night Out, believes strongly in the value of holding NEIGHBORHOOD events throughout the City, versus having one large CITY event. But, West Valley City also realizes that all neighborhoods do not have the resources to plan and initiate neighborhood events, therefore the City proudly hosts multiple opportunities throughout the month of August for residents to participate in and learn about crime prevention under the banner of National Night Out Against Crime.

The West Valley City Neighborhood Services Office takes the lead role in organizing and coordinating National Night Out events for West Valley City. This division is located within the City Communications Department which provides direct access to ALL City Departments for support and resources.

Additionally, several city departments and divisions also play a vital supporting role. Regular meetings were held with these groups to plan towards a smooth and seamless National Night Out.

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Parks and Recreation Department
- Communications Department

In addition to City Staff, a core group of Neighborhood Watch Chairpersons organized into a resident advisory group. Communications with this group began in April to evaluate the successes and areas of potential growth from 2019 events. Following NNO 2019, a brief survey was sent to ALL block party coordinators and to participating vendors to seek input, the group also reviewed this information to help make recommendations to the city on how things might be modified or updated to stay current with neighborhood needs. This group also used the survey information to identify the needs not currently being met.

Key sponsors were identified by this group for City Staff to approach. National level sponsors provide VERY little to NO support for local events in West Valley City.

We were able to successfully approach a few local community partners interested in helping sponsor this years events. This year we focused on 3 main food vendors: Bimbo Bakeries provided buns for all the events, Frito Lay provided chips for all the events, Smith's Food & Drug provided all the hot dogs, condiments, paper products and bottled water. As always, our local level sponsors were amazing!



Short & Long Term Impacts

West Valley City is a newer community in Utah, only being incorporated since 1980. Over the past few years our city has seen tremendous growth, moving from a rural suburb/farming community near Salt Lake City to Utah's second largest municipality with an estimated 136,000+residents. WVC has participated in the National Night Out campaign since its beginning. For the past sixteen consecutive years NATW has graciously recognized the efforts of WVC and its residents for their participation in National Night Out.

While the City is only 40 years old, pocket neighborhoods had been built within the current City boundaries for decades under Salt Lake County supervision. With a mixture of old and new, along with such rapid growth comes many issues, many associated with deteriorating neighborhoods and a perception of increased crime rates. National Night Out has proven a significant component of the City's crime prevention education and prevention efforts. At the core of the National Night Out program is the ability to help build unity not only between residents and Police and City Staff, but most importantly between neighbors.

Year after year, there is always a story that comes forward about how National Night Out was the mechanism for neighbors who have lived near each other for months, and in some cases years, to meet one another. Without the unity of residents within a neighborhood, crime prevention practices are weak and often ineffective. West Valley City residents are becoming more knowledgeable about how their government works and what resources are available for them. Residents are feeling more confident in finding ways to protect their homes, neighborhoods, and quality of life as a unified group of neighbors who all share a common interest.

All of the City's neighborhood watch groups are strongly encouraged to participate in National Night Out. National Night Out opens many doors for the City by helping us make new contacts to help get neighborhoods more organized and help them form formal neighborhood watch groups. These groups also look forward to NNO 2021.





2020 National Night Out Events Schedule

Saturday, September 26

MyHometown Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair MyHometown Community Center 9:00 - 12:00 am

Neighborhood Block Parties Locations around the City

Thursday, October 1

Community Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair City Hall 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, October 6

Neighborhood Block Parties Locations around the City

Monday, October 19

Senior Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair Family Fitness Center 9:00 - 11:00 am

Thursday, October 22

Family Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair Family Fitness Center 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Saturday, October 24

DEA Drug Take Back CVS Pharmacy 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Neighborhood Block Parties Locations around the City







Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33





Project Summary

2020 was a challenging year for West Valley City. The virus in the City has hit our community hard and at one point was considered a hot spot in Utah. Planning for 2020 events started early as this year was also our City's 40th anniversary. Plans were made, plans were changed, plans were adapted to fit three possible state guidelines, and plans were finally mostly canceled. Given the ever evolving situation with COVID-19, the City Council broke with their long standing tradition of making an official proclamation for National Night Out in West Valley City this year.

This year, had National Night Out moved forward in August, residents would have been faced with extremely HOT weather conditions. Events held in late September and early October enjoyed pleasant conditions for evenings were turning very chilly. Our last event held on October 22 was windy and cold, as it was an outdoor drive-thru style safety fair, vendors were frequently taking cover in their vehicles to get warm.

As this was our first year holding NNO October, we were concerned about loosing some of the energy and brand recognition surround the month of August. In response we created a series of short videos and social media posts for the first week of August. This also included encouraging residents to participate in a "Light On" event on Tuesday, August 4. The videos will be include in the report CD.

We proved to be as adaptable as possible this year while keeping the safety and health of our community in mind in all we did. In the end we had only neighborhood events, but we had 4 drivethru style safety and wellness fairs with flu shot clinics.

City Participation

In years past, every National Night Out event has been visited by the West Valley City Police Department, at least one member of City Council, and several other City representatives were also able to visit some events.

This year, police and fire attended most of the neighborhood and drive-thru safety and wellness events. Council and other staff were also invited to attend the drive-thru events and several other city programs choose to support the events.





Community Participation

Early in the year, the City was able to successfully approach several local organizations to help support this year's events. The City was able to raise cash donations and in-kind donations to meet the \$20,000 2020 budget. Most of these donations included food products for the assistance program. Due to limitations on food preparation and distribution, we were unable to accept these donations.

Secured Sponsors and Donors included:

- West Valley City General Fund (cash)
- West Valley City Housing Authority (CDBG)
- Smiths Food (cash, discounts and in-kind)
- Bimbo Bakeries (buns)
- Frito Lay (chips)

As the National Night Out program in West Valley City has grown from year to year, and with community organizations consistently expressing interest in supporting the events, we are eager to return to a more traditional event in 2021. Even with the challenges of 2020, we had over 20 organizations from all around the Salt Lake Valley participated with information booths at the City hosted safety fairs.

Neighborhood Participation

This program is one of our community's prized annual functions in West Valley City neighborhoods. Residents and City officials look forward to exciting events each year. This year was heart breaking for many of our neighborhoods. While the community was expressing need and desire for in-person connections and having community events, it simply was not safe for many of our neighborhoods and organizers to move forward with plans. Sadly, Utah experienced a steady increase in COVID-19 cases during September leading to massive spikes in early October.



Block Party Assistance Program

For the eighth year, the City was planning to offer a National Night Out Block Party Assistance Program. The program is primarily funded through community sponsors and partners. The City is able provided block parties with free hot dogs, buns, potato chips, water, condiments and paper products. Due to Health Department restrictions, this program was mostly suspended for 2020. Participating groups asked for other supplies this year such as sidewalk chalk, construction paper and crayons.

Face Mask Distribution

Between August and October, the City was able to secure a donation of 8,400 reusable, washable face masks from the Salt Lake County Health Department. These masks were offered to our neighborhood groups. Within hours of each shipments, these masks were all picked up and distributed. Due to the recent progression of COVID-19 in Utah, the county will be purchasing more masks and the City will be receiving an additional 36,000 masks to distribute to our neighborhood groups.

Block Parties

In an effort to help staff attend more events, alternate National Night Out Block Party dates are selected by the City. The focus remains on the official first Tuesday in October, but this year 2 additional date offered to neighborhoods. These alternate dates allow more flexibility for the neighborhoods to focus on the needs of their residents, but enable our limited staff to attend more events. With this being our first year to plan for October, residents asked for a night in September out of concerns over the unpredictable weather in October. One night was scheduled in late September, and 2 nights were scheduled in October. The September date had spectacular weather, the official NNO night was cool but nice, and the last date in October had snow. I total, only 4 neighborhood groups choose to participate this year.





Drive-thru Safety & Wellness Fairs

Multiple plans were made for community events in 2020, but in the end the City co-sponsored one large community drive-thru safety and wellness fair, and hosted three additional drive-thru safety and wellness fairs.

My Hometown Community Sept 26 115 cars, 300 people

> WVC Community Oct 1 13 cars, 49 people

WVC Senior Focus Oct 19 15 cars, 35 people

WVC Family Focus Oct 22 30 cars, 71 people

Each of these events was drive-thru style. As attendees arrived, they were welcome by a staff member and were given a reusable grocery. At the My Hometown event, a volunteer walked along side the car carrying the bad and collection handouts from each vendor. At the WVC events the bad was hung on the side view mirror and vendors were able to safely place materials in the bag. This approach minimized contact as much as possible.

At all the events, the City was also able to provide each vehicle with an additional bag that included hand sanitizer, a book mark with safety reminders, a City resource guide, a refrigerator magnet with essential city phone numbers, and as many facemasks as the needed for their entire family.

Additional Events

In years past, several large businesses, LDS Church groups and non-profits have also invited the city to participate in various events. These events have typically been held every weekend from mid-August all through September. This year, these events were all canceled.

Chat with the Chief

Typically the Chief prefers to cancel this event during August so that the focus can remain on the National Night Out program, This year the August date was canceled. An October 14 session was already schedule before the plans of moving NNO to October were known. Due to COVID-19, this was held as a Facebook Live event.

Chill with the Chief

The intent of this program is to provide a low-key way for the public to have access to the Police Chief. This program was suspended in 2020.







Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33





Media & Promotion

Promotion of National Night Out 2020 began almost immediately after the National Night Out 2019 post-project report was completed. With in the neighborhoods, National Night Out is identified as one of the most important and positive community building activities that they participate in every year. National Night Out helps to build lasting and meaning relationships between neighbors.

Much of our efforts are concentrated towards nextdoor, facebook and twitter campaigns. Traditional modes of promotion such as posters, fliers, signs, and banners were also used around the City. Neighborhoods that decided to host events, were asked to send out at least 2 invitations to their residents, a generic save the date message 2-3 weeks before their block party followed up with a more detailed invitation no less than 1 week before.

We promote National Night Out year round in an effort to keep neighborhood watch organizations focused. Neighborhood Watch groups are required to register with the City on an annual basis. One requirement of the groups is to hold a minimum of two neighborhood meetings annually. National Night Out may count towards on of those meeting requirements.

A consistent promotion theme was used once again this year that included a consistent color and font palette. These theme changed mid-year due to a focus shift towards drive-thru style safety and wellness events. Media participation was nonexistent this year. West Valley City is located in a very concentrated media market that focuses heavily on Salt Lake City.

National Night Out street banners were placed near four of the City venues to help promote the drivethru events. Indoor retractable banner stands were not used this year due to limited access to some public buildings.

Facebook and twitter were used to promote National Night Out. Several of posts were made directly related to NNO. Posts began back in March with a "Save the Date" message, another push in August, and a final push in late September and early October.





Videos

With the shift from August to October this year, we were concerned with loosing some of the energy surrounding National Night Out in WVC. Compounded with the challenges surrounding the stresses related to COVID-19, we decided to produce a few videos and Facebook posts for the first part of August to remind residents that National Night Out was still moving forward, but would be held in October this year.

These videos have been included as a separate DVD included in the report package being sent to NATW.

WVC Website



Utility Bill Insert



Most West Valley City offices and facilities are now open to the public. Per Salt Lake County Health Order, a mask must be worn inside all public facilities.

Visit www.wvc-ut.gov/WeAreOpen to access city services or to make an appointment.

October 2020 Events

- 1 Arsenic & Old Lace (through October 26) Harman Theatre Ticket Info: www.wvcarts.org
- 1 National Night Out Drive-Thru Community Health & Safety Fair 2788 West 3650 South, 5:30 - 8 PM
- 3 (When) Utah Travels (Again) Online Exhibit (through October 7) www.wvcarts.org
- Meet with Mayor Ron Bigelow (call-in only) Mayor Bigelow will be available by phone at 801-232-0373 from 4:30 - 6 PM.
- 8 Professional Standards Review Board E-Meeting 8:30 AM
- 14 Virtual Community Meeting with Chief Jacobs facebook.com/WVCPolice, 6 PM
- 19 National Night Out Drive-Thru Senior Health & Safety Fair Family Fitness Center, 9 - 11 AM
- 22 National Night Out Drive-Thru Family Health & Safety Fair Family Fitness Center, 4:30 - 6:30 PM
- 24 Day of the Dead Celebration Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 10 AM - 6 PM

Events may be added, changed, or canceled after publication. Visit wvc-ut.gov/events for a complete and current list.

Harman Senior Recreation Center Calendar: www.wvc-ut.gov/harman



Street Banners





Posters









Facebook & Nextdoor Posts August











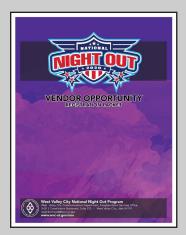
Facebook & Nextdoor Posts October

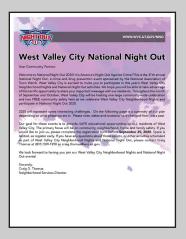






National Night Out Vendor Packet

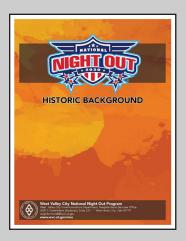








National Night Out Background Packet



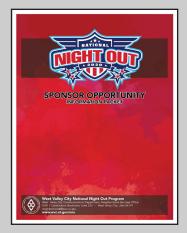


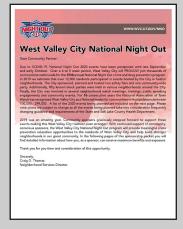




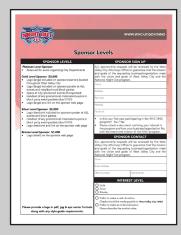


National Night Out Sponsor Packet

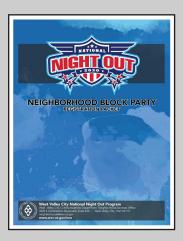


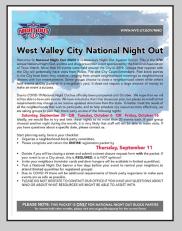






National Night Out Block Party Registration Packet





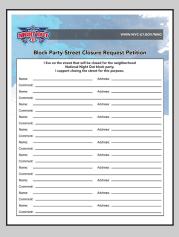
















Report	5
Coordinator Summary	9
Project Summary	15
Media & Promotion	21
Miscellaneous	29
Photo Gallery	33





Project 365

National Night Out has been an integral part of our Neighborhood Watch organizing efforts since we began supporting NNO in 1984. NNO does not stand alone in WVC, rather it is one piece of a larger effort to build community and get people interacting positively with the neighbors. Each year, NNO helps build and maintain WVC's extensive Neighborhood Watch program. It gives an opportunity to get together with their neighbors, or more importantly, get together again and continue building those caring relationships that help ensure people will look out for one another.

NNO is much more than a "single-night" event for WVC. The impact lasts throughout the year because neighbors who know each other care more about their neighborhoods and do a better job of watching out and reporting crime and suspicious behavior to police.

The WVC Neighborhood Services Office and WVCPD work together to identify areas within the city that have "hot-spots" of criminal activity. Every month, an effort is made to visit these neighborhoods and go door-to-door and walk the streets to raise awareness of crime prevention programs and try to identity neighborhood leaders that we then invite to organize neighborhood NNO events.

2021 Planning

Discussions are already taking place with Neighborhood Watch Chairpersons and 2019 National Night Out neighborhood event organizers (as there were few that participated in 2020) about how we can plan better to be adaptable in 2021 as we truly do not know what will be possible due to COVID-19. We are all extremely eager to make 2021 an amazing come back year!

Our block party assistance program will hopefully return in 2021. In 2019 the program assisted 99% of the events in West Valley City. It is hoped that for 2021, resources and donations will once again enable the assistance program to provide hot dogs, buns, condiments, chips and drinks to all the events in West Valley City that request assistance.





Suggestions for NATW

Our overall impression of the National Association of Town Watch and the National Night Out program is VERY positive. We have participated in the program since it was started. Residents have made National Night Out a tradition in our community. Neighborhood leaders and residents believe strongly that National Night Out helps to strengthen their neighbor to neighbor and resident to City relationships.

We believe NATW does a terrific job. For the past couple years we have noticed that the NATW staff has been improving response times and customer service. Once again this year, the NATW staff was extremely fast and responsive with requests to questions and emails. But, general communication and updates from NATW to organizers seemed inconsistent. This was a difficult year for everyone, planning was challenging and frustrating due to constant changes in the development and spread of COVID-19. Many communities, like WVC, spent countless hours planning for successful events, more guidance or updates from NATW would have helped to relieve some of the stress.

Every year we buy a large quantity of supplies from the NATW store. Feedback from our neighborhood groups would be a request for continued development of new promotion pieces. We placed a large order again this year in hopes that events would move forward and to support NATW, most of these supplies were not used this year and will be stored for 2021.

Moving NNO from August to October was concerning to us and to our residents. Events early in the month were pleasant, but the final event date we proposed for neighborhoods had snow on the ground. While August is very HOT in Utah, October can bring cold temperatures. Temperature does play a role in residents desires to attend outdoor events.

National Sponsors Participation

One of our other battles in the past has been with financial support from the business community. Where we see limited meaningful support is from the National Level Sponsors on a local level. Local offices of the national sponsors rarely express interest in participating or attending our events.





Photo Gallery	33
Miscellaneous	29
Media & Promotion	21
Project Summary	15
Coordinator Summary	9
Report	5



My Hometown Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair

Saturday, September 26 My Hometown Pilot Area





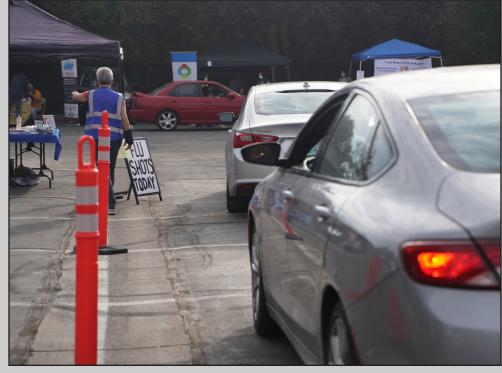


















Community Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair

Thursday, October 1 WVC City Hall









Senior Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair

Monday, October 19 Family Fitness Center









Family Drive-thru Safety and Wellness Fair

Thursday, October 22 Family Fitness Center











Neighborhood Events

Saturday, September 26 Tuesday, October 6 Monday, October 26











